Governments for running projects for orphan/destitute/abandoned children up to the age of 6 years to provide them institutional care followed by rehabilitation through in-country adoption. Under the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), provision has been made for setting up of Cradle Baby Reception Centres in each district. These Cradle Baby Reception Centres would be liked to Cradle Points at Primary Health Care Centres (PHCs). Hospitals/ Nursing Homes, Swadhar Units, Short Stay Homes and in district Child Protection Units to received abandoned babies.

Regulatory framework of admission in nursery and kindergartens

2936. SHRI P.R. RAJAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is implementing any regulatory frameworks for admissions in nursery schools and kindergartens; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Dhanlaxmi Scheme

2937. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has recently launched a new scheme called Dhanlaxmi for the girl child;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) what benefits, under the above scheme, the Ministry is proposing to give to a girl child;

(d) whether it is also a fact that an amount would also be provided to the family of the girl child with some riders;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the details of districts identified in Andhra Pradesh for implementation of this scheme on pilot basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The Scheme of Dhanalakshmi-Conditional Cash Transfer for the Girl Child with Insurance Cover-has been launched on 3.3.2008. The scheme includes cash Transfers to the family of the girl child based on the fulfillment of four important conditionalities *viz.* birth and registration of the girl child, immunization, retention in school and delaying marriage beyond 18 years of age.

(f) The districts of Khammam and Warangal have been identified for implementation of the scheme on pilot basis.

Laws to arrest sex discrimination

2938. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government intends to enact any laws to arrest sex discrimination and assault at workplace on women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the alternative measures to curb this vice at the work places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government intends to enact a law to protect women from sexual harassment at work place.

(b) The proposed Bill is based on guidelines issued by the Supreme Court in *Vishakha* case for prevention of sexual harassment at work place. It contains provisions for setting up an Internal Complaints Committee and a Local Complaints Committee to look into the complaints of the aggrieved women and recommend suitable action against the respondent.

(c) Does not arise.

Appointment of Protection Officers

2939. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairperson of National Commission for Women has expressed concern over the delay in appointment of POs (Protection Officers) by States for the implementation of the newly enacted Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005;

(b) if so, what are the States which have not so far, taken action on implementing the law; and

(c) what are the steps the Central Government proposes to take to impress upon the States for its early implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per information available with the Ministry, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Tripura, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand have not taken any action so far on implementing the law.

(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development has advised all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations to take immediate steps to implement the Act, including appointment of Protection Officers and provision of necessary infrastructure, registration of service providers and publicity to Protection Officers, service providers and the provisions of the Act.